



EV371746995US

PATENTS
NITTA/004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner : Melanie D. Bissett
Group Art Unit : 1711
Applicants : Naoyuki Tani et al.
Application No. : 09/786,001 Confirmation No. : 6419
Filed : June 4, 2001
For : WORKPIECE RETAINER AND METHODS FOR
ATTACHING/DETACHING WORKPIECE BY USING
THE SAME
New York, New York
May 21, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment
Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)
FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

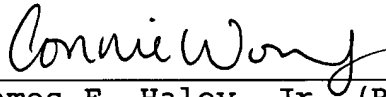
Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), applicants hereby petition for an one-month extension of time to respond to the Examiner's Office Action dated January 21, 2004. With the extension, a response is due on or before May 21, 2004. A check in the amount of \$110.00, in payment

of the fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(1), is enclosed herewith.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional extension fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 in connection with the paper(s) transmitted herewith, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 06-1075. A duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,



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